

友愛 Friendship Magazine

THE ENGLISH NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE
DIOCESE OF TAIWAN

Year 104, Issue 1 June 2015

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BISHOP'S LETTER



I write this as we are celebrating Pentecost, and as I reflect back on the Easter season. During Easter I have been encouraging all our church members to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd. We are all so familiar with the prayer of David in Psalm 23, and when we

read I Samuel 16-23, it is easy to see that David really did trust in God in his life as a shepherd boy, taking care of his father's sheep. So David's prayer and desire to humbly ask God to be his shepherd and to guide him and help him to

be a good leader of his people is a natural response to his own experience in the fields taking care of his sheep. As David was a shepherd to his own sheep, so he asks God to be a shepherd to him.



One of the problems facing people in our modern society is the lack of any sense of security. So many people face depression and fear, often stemming from a lack of security. Another



THE DIOCESE OF TAIWAN WELCOMES THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH HOUSE OF BISHOPS FALL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2014, GRAND HOTEL, TAIPEI

problem is that people trust only themselves; their pride in themselves makes them feel they have no need of God. The media gives us the impression that we know everything there is to know about everything, including religion. But knowledge without action is worthless. Knowing is not the same as doing. It is easy to see how modern society is full of people who live like sheep without a shepherd.

Easter is not a single day or a single season. We need to trust God not just on Sundays, but every moment, every day, then the Holy Spirit can work in us and guide us throughout each day. May the experience and prayer of Psalm 23 be ours each day of our lives.

Let us humbly observe nature and learn from it. In the natural world, creatures obey their own nature which God gave to them at creation. They do what comes naturally to them, and so they continue through the generations. But our Heavenly Father



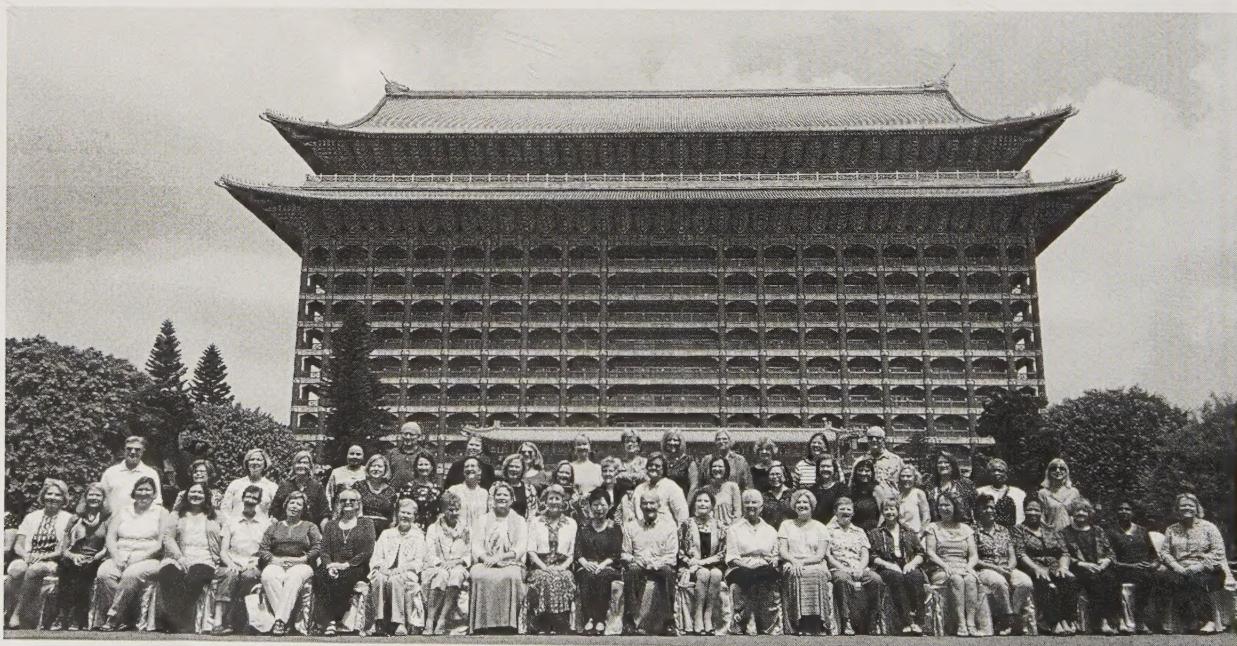
HOUSE OF BISHOPS COMMEMORATIVE STAMP SET

has given us a special gift, the gift of free will. Each person can decide for themselves. It is up to each of us to decide whether to follow the word of God and the Good Shepherd or just follow our own desires.

In church history, all the people blessed by God and remembered by us are those who followed the Good Shepherd, and many became martyrs for their faith. In Exodus 23:16, it mentions 2 celebrations, the Festival of Harvest and the Festival of Ingathering, and the offering to God of the fruits of their toil. In our celebrations we need to examine ourselves and what we are offering to God now. Pentecost follows 50 days after East-

er, 50 days after the resurrection of Christ. It is a great opportunity for us to examine ourselves, are we truly following the Good Shepherd as one of his sheep, being a good disciple of Christ and a faithful servant? May God bless us this Pentecost!

SPOUSES AT THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS FALL MEETING, TAIWAN



Apologies from the Friendship Magazine Editorial Team for the long delay in the publication of this latest edition, due to the editor's Home Leave in the UK from October 2014 to April 2015.

News from the Diocese of Taiwan

Five young people from the Diocese of Taiwan attended the 2014 Episcopal Youth Event (EYE 14), held from July 9-12 at Villanova University



in suburban Philadelphia, USA, followed by 3 days of urban mission, based at the University of Pennsylvania.

On Saturday August 23, 2014, an ordination service was held at St. John's Cathedral, Taipei (see photo above). Rev. Joseph Ho Ray-En 何睿恩牧師 was ordained priest, he currently serves at Christ Church, Chung-Li. Rev. Tsai Ching-Yi 蔡靜儀會吏 and Rev. Wu Shing-Siang 吳興祥會吏 were both ordained as deacons, currently serving at St. John's Cathedral and Advent Church respectively.

In September, 2014, the Diocese of Taiwan received a congratulatory letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Taiwan Episcopal Church, printed on the following page.

The Diocese of Taiwan warmly welcomed the Episcopal Church House of Bishops to Taiwan for their Fall Meeting from September 17-23, 2014. The following week, the Diocese of Taiwan Fall Clergy Retreat was held in Taiping, Taichung, led by the Bishop of Vermont, the Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely.

For the past 2 years, 2013-14, Bishop David J. H. Lai has been chair of the National Council of Churches of Taiwan, NCCT. The new chair of NCCT for 2015-16 is Bishop David Wu Ying-Pin, of the Taiwan Lutheran Church.

On Saturday November 1, 2014, the Taiwan Episcopal Church took part in the annual NCCT Sports Day, held at the Methodist Girls School, Taipei.

On Saturday January 24, 2015, St. John's Cathedral, Taipei hosted the annual NCCT prayer service and gathering, led by Bishop Wu.

Over Chinese New Year, February 12-22, 2015, a group from the Diocese of Taiwan, led by Bishop David J. H. Lai and Mrs. Lily Lai, took part in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Since the last Friendship Magazine, there have been several changes of clergy in the diocese. The Dean of St. John's Cathedral, Samuel Lin retired last summer; Rev. Elizabeth Wei is now acting rector, helped by Rev. Peter Chen as acting curate. Rev. Lily Chang has moved from Good Shepherd Church to St. James' Church, Taichung, and Rev. Philip Lin has moved from St. James' Church to Good Shepherd. Rev. Richard Lee has moved from Trinity Church, Keelung to St. Timothy's Church, Kaohsiung, and Rev. Justin Lin has moved from St. Timothy's to Trinity. Rev. Joseph Ho has moved from the Church of the Leading Star, Taiping to Christ Church, Chung-Li. The Rev. Sam Cheng is now responsible for the Sunday services at the Church of the Leading Star.

The Diocese of Taiwan Annual Synod was held on Friday March 5 - Saturday March 6, 2015, hosted by All Saints Church, Kangshan.

From April 15-19, 2015, a group from the Diocese of Taiwan visited the Diocese of Osaka to attend the consecration of the new bishop, Bishop Andrew Haruhisa Iso on Saturday April 18.

The spring clergy retreat took place in Taiping from May 11-13, led by Rev. Herbert Barker, based on the Prayer of St. Francis.

Congratulatory letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury for the 60th Anniversary of
the Taiwan Episcopal Church



ARCHBISHOP
OF CANTERBURY

The Rt Revd David Lai
7 Lane
105 Hangchow South Road, Sec.1,
Taipei, 10060
Taiwan

Ref: 11731
1 September 2014

The 60th Anniversary of the Diocese of Taiwan Episcopal Church in 2014

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ

I am delighted to have this opportunity to offer my greetings to the Taiwan Episcopal Church whilst you celebrate your 60th Anniversary this year. This is a major landmark and I give thanks to the Almighty for his many blessings and for your faithfulness in the Church's ministry over the past years.

I understand that the Diocese will host the Episcopal Church House of Bishops later in the autumn. I am sure that they will offer their greetings and join in your celebrations and recognise your achievements.

It is always good to mark these occasions, to celebrate achievements and to renew your commitment to one another and the world through prayer, worship, fellowship, and by reaching out to others in service.

As you continue your celebrations I encourage you to look to the future so that together seeking God's will, you will continue your calling to minister and serve the wider community of Taiwan.

I wish you all a blessed year of celebrations and prayers for renewed commitment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Welby".

The Most Reverend and Rt Honourable Justin Welby
Archbishop of Canterbury

Lambeth Palace, London SE1 7JU

EYE 14 Episcopal Youth Event, July 2014

Extracts from Episcopal News Service, Rev. Paul Lai and Mrs. Nancy Liao

During his sermon in the closing Eucharist, The Episcopal Bishop of North Carolina, Bishop Michael Curry told a story. When he served in Lincoln Heights, Ohio as a Rector and a school chaplain, he and his family lived in the rectory with an open field in the back. Everything was decent until his first winter arrived. When the temperature dropped outside, all of the mice in the field moved into the house.

The mouse problem was very bad. They tried everything to get rid of the mice without any success. One of the school teachers offered to give him a cat. This cat, named Muffin, had been abused by another cat and a dog under the same roof. Bishop Curry was not sure he wanted a loser to take on the fight with their mice. Bishop Curry said "I wanted a cat named 'Killer'" but he settled for Muffin. Muffin settled into the family rather smoothly. One night he got up in the middle of the night and noticed Muffin crouched down in attack mode, so he stopped to watch what was happening. Suddenly Muffin pounced and caught and killed a mouse. Muffin started to catch mice all the time. It did not take long to be mice-free in the house.

Bishop Curry used this story to illustrate that when Muffin felt loved, she was empowered to do what she was capable of doing – catching mice.

To the youth, Bishop Curry reminded them that God's love will help everyone to overcome all the



EYE 14 DELEGATES FROM TAIWAN WITH PRESIDING BISHOP KATHARINE JEFFERTS SCHORI

challenges and obstacles in life.

For the 5 youth representing the Diocese of Taiwan (see top photo left), they attended numerous workshops and worship services. They labored in local church ministries. They encountered diversity in culture and ethnicity. They battled with jet lag and the unfamiliarity

of Philadelphia. They overcame communication barriers to forge new friendships. They experienced the love and grace of being Christians. Above all, they are renewed and marked to carry out Christ's mission in their journey ahead!

The Episcopal Youth Event 2014 included 786 youth in grades 9-12 during the 2013-2014 academic year and 263 adult leaders who spent July 9-12 on the campus of Villanova University near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. EYE 14's theme was "Marked for Mission" and the gathering was built around helping participants discern how the Holy Spirit has marked them for mission and how they might engage in the work of the Anglican Communion's Five

Marks of Mission, as a way to enact the call to love that they were hearing.

The Diocese of Taiwan is grateful to The Episcopal Church and to Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry EAM for their financial support towards the Diocese of Taiwan youth delegation's participation in EYE 14.

The Episcopal Church House of Bishops (HOB) Fall Meeting in Taiwan

September 17-23, 2014

After many years in the planning, the Diocese of Taiwan was delighted to host The Episcopal Church House of Bishops (HOB) Fall Meeting in Taiwan. This was the first time that the House of Bishops had ever met in Asia, and for many of the bishops it was their first visit to the continent. Nearly all diocesan bishops were in attendance, plus many Suffragan bishops, retired bishops and spouses, in total about 200 people. We also welcomed visitors, including bishops and others from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines and Pakistan. It was a wonderful opportunity for all of us, and we are grateful to all volunteers from the Diocese of Taiwan who gave willingly of their time and energy to ensure that everything went so smoothly. We also give thanks to Almighty God that everything went so well. In fact, even though there was a typhoon on the Monday, it coincided with a day of meetings, so

did not interfere with the program in any way.

The HOB meeting took place at the Grand Hotel in Taipei, and the first formal event of the opening day, Wednesday Sept. 17, was the Welcome Reception, hosted by the Diocese of Taiwan in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Taiwan Episcopal Church. We were honored by the presence of President Ma Ying-Jeou, all bishops and spouses, plus clergy and church members from all our churches in Taiwan.

On Thursday Sept. 18, there were 4 field trips organized to visit our churches in Taiwan. One group visited Trinity Church and St. Stephen's Church, Keelung; another group went to Good Shepherd Church, Taipei, a third group to St. John's University and a fourth group by High-Speed Rail to St. James' Church, Taichung.



NEWLY ARRIVED BISHOPS AND SPOUSES RECEIVE WELCOME BAGS FROM THE DIOCESE OF TAIWAN WELCOME TEAM!

HOB WELCOME RECEPTION, AND VISIT OF PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU (BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

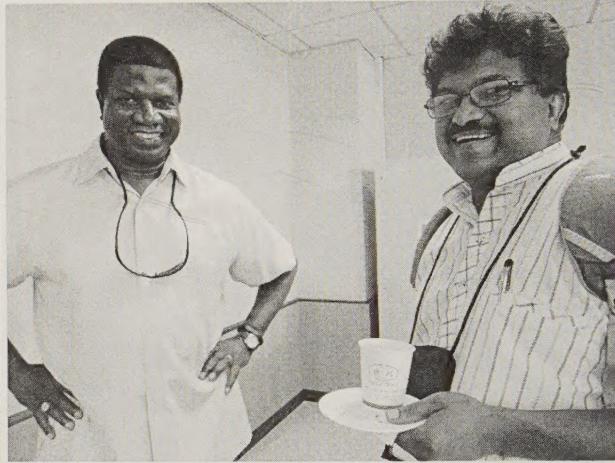


On Friday Sept. 19, the bishops held their HOB meetings, while the spouses were offered the choice of 2 places to visit, one group visited the Museum of Marine Science, Keelung and Jiu-Fen Village, while a second group visited Dharma Drum Mountain to learn about Buddhism.

The following day, Saturday Sept. 20 was a free day and the Diocese of Taiwan hosted 4 different sightseeing trips, each led by one of our churches: St. John's Cathedral led one group to the Yilan National Center for Traditional Arts and Shenkeng Old Street, Good Shepherd Church led a second group to Sanshia Old Street and Yingge Ceramics Museum, Advent Church led a third group to Yehliu Geological Park and Tamsui, and Mrs. Amy Lin from St. John's Cathedral led a fourth group on a Taipei City Tour. In the evening, the youth of the diocese took the visitors to Shilin Night Market, while Bishop Lai hosted a Chinese Tea Ceremony at the Grand Hotel.

On Sunday Sept 21, there were 3 choices of Sunday worship, at St. John's Cathedral, Good Shepherd Church or Advent Church, all followed by lunch, hosted by the churches.

The last 2 days of the HOB were reserved for the formal HOB meetings, while the spouses arranged their own activities. The whole event closed with a final dinner on the evening of Tuesday Sept 23. On Sept. 24, a number of bishops headed to Japan, Hong Kong, The Philippines or Korea to continue learning about the mission and ministry of the Anglican Church in those contexts. The following week, the Bishop of Vermont, Thomas Ely and his wife, Ann kindly returned to Taiwan to lead the Diocese of Taiwan Clergy Retreat.



HOB Reports from the Episcopal News Service

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori:

'This meeting has offered abundant opportunities to expand our vision of what is possible as we engage God's mission. Our chaplain the Rev. Simón Bautista reminded us this morning that we are all bound for home, that we're meant to travel light – and that "home" is the Reign of God. Our chaplain the Rev. Stephanie Spellers challenged us yesterday to take the journey to unexpected places and communities. The bishops of this Church will return to their dioceses with renewed energy and increased willingness to risk more for the gospel and travel a bit lighter. We have built new relationships with our partners in Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the Philippines and with our brother and sisters in Taiwan. We've discovered new readings of the old, old stories and new theological perspectives rooted in different parts of God's creation. With hearts and minds expanded, we know ourselves part of a body

larger and with deeper bonds than we imagined. And we give thanks for knowing what it is to be received as Christ himself. The hospitality of the Diocese of Taiwan has been full measure, pressed down, and overflowing. May God continue to richly bless this part of The Episcopal Church'.

Bishop Dean E. Wolfe of Kansas, vice president of HOB and co-chair of the HOB Planning Committee:

'The 2014 meeting of the House of Bishops has been an extraordinary and historic gathering.'

The first meeting of the House of Bishops in Asia, this meeting has turned our attention to the vibrant ministries of The Episcopal Church taking place in Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong. The Bishop of Pakistan, Samuel Azariah, challenged us

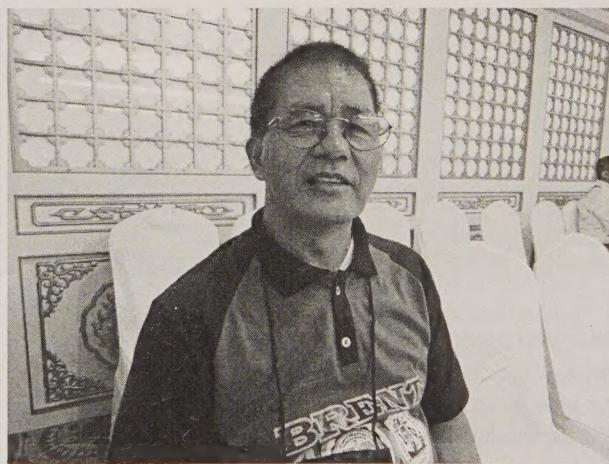
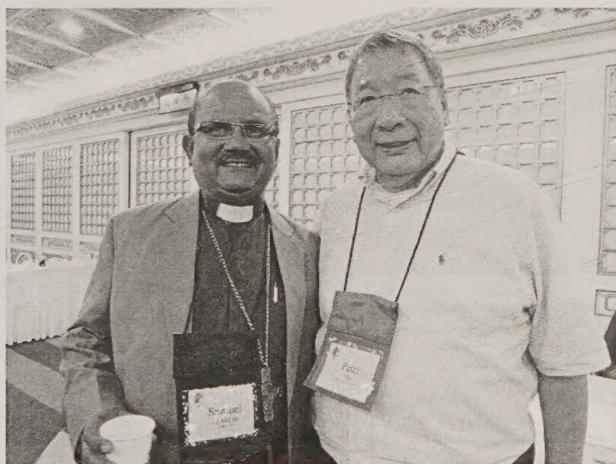
with reports of Christian persecution in the Middle East and the heroic witness being made by Christians in that region. We have been inspired by visits from the Primates of this region and their forthright descriptions of their context for ministry. We have been encouraged by our visits to the faithful congregations of Taipei, motivated by fresh models for theological education, and touched by the overwhelming generosity and hospitality exhibited by our hosts.

All of us who have congregants from Asia have gained a deeper understanding of the context from which our brothers and sisters have come and a greater appreciation for the Christian witness along the Pacific Rim. We traveled a very long way and at no small expense to come to Taiwan to reinforce a principal which is dear to us; that every diocese is an essential member of our family of faith and no diocese is too small or too far away. We are present here as an outward and visible sign of our commitment to our brothers and sisters in Asia and we have

been richly blessed by our time together during this meeting in Taiwan'.

Bishop Todd Ousley of Eastern Michigan, co-chair of the HOB Planning Committee:

'This gathering of the House of Bishops in the Diocese of Taiwan has been the perfect crucible for engaging our theme, "Expanding our Apostolic Imagination." Removed from the familiarity and comfort of our own dioceses and cultures, we have been challenged by stories of Christian witness not only in Taiwan but also in other Asian contexts such as Hong Kong, Pakistan, Japan, Korea and the Philippines. My own imagination continues to expand as I consider the vision of the future shape of the Church as shared by Archbishop Nathaniel Uematsu of Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Anglican Church in Japan): the Church as a Community of the People of God who are gathered, nourished, and sent to proclaim



HOB VISITORS: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BISHOP SAMUEL AZARIAH, PAKISTAN AND CANON PETER NG; PRIME BISHOP EDWARD MALECDAN, PHILIPPINES; ARCHBISHOP PAUL KIM, S. KOREA AND REV. AIDAN KOH; ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL UEMATSU, NSKK, JAPAN (WITH BISHOP HENRY PARSLEY)

HOB FINAL DAY: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FINAL HOB COMMUNION SERVICE, FAREWELL DINNER, PRESIDING BISHOP KATHARINE THANKS BISHOP LAI, SPOUSES THANK MRS. LILY LAI



peace and reconciliation, grounded in repentance. I leave this meeting reminded that to be an apostle, one who is sent, and to invite others to be people sent to proclaim God's message of peace and reconciliation, we must not rush headlong into action with programs and events. Rather, we must begin with self-examination and spiritual acts of repentance that ground our message and lend it integrity. Only then will our message of peace and reconciliation be received as the Good News that it indeed is.

We are immensely grateful for Bishop Lai and the gracious hospitality of the people of the Diocese of Taiwan for their tireless efforts to provide this experience and space for creative reflection. On behalf of the Planning Committee and the entire House of Bishops, we give thanks for Lori Ionnitiu of the General Convention Office who has coordinated all onsite arrangements. Finally, the Rev. Canon Charles Robertson and Ednice Baerga of the Presiding Bishop's staff have once again worked tirelessly behind the scenes to afford us this opportunity to

expand our apostolic imaginations'.

Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce of Los Angeles, assistant secretary of HOB:

'There were 112 bishops and many spouses in attendance at the meeting, with the Bishop Bob G. Jones, retired from the Diocese of Wyoming, being the senior bishop present. This has been an extremely worthwhile and valuable trip as a member of The Episcopal Church and especially Province VIII. With the growing Asian community in the United States, especially on the West Coast including my home diocese of Los Angeles, having firsthand knowledge and witness of the context and content of ministry and mission, we are able to more directly address our mutual needs. I am grateful to Bishop Lai and his clergy and laity and the people of the Diocese of Taiwan for their radical hospitality and their ability to do mission and ministry in the name of Jesus Christ in diverse locations. We have much to learn and share'.

Bishop David Lai of Taiwan, host of the HOB meeting:

'Dreams come true not just for me, but also for all the bishops and their spouses – everyone of us. I believe the trip may have taken a long time – 16

hours – to get here, but the things we experienced are full of experiences to remember, to share and to learn about and to tell their church members. The memories will remain longer than 16 hours. All praise the Lord'.

Reflections on the Interim Meeting of the House of Bishops, Taiwan

Rt. Rev. Richard S. O. Chang , retired Bishop of Hawaii

Attending the Interim Meeting of the House of Bishops was my sixth visit to the Diocese of Taiwan since 1988 when I attended the consecration of John Chien as Bishop. Several months have passed since the meeting in September, but I still give thanks for the opportunity to visit the Diocese of Taiwan once again. I know that the clergy and people of the Diocese worked with great dedication to prepare for this meeting. Because of their dedicated efforts, everyone attending the meeting of the House of Bishops witnessed their deep faith in Jesus Christ and experienced the generous hospitality of the people of the Diocese. We were truly welcomed as brothers and sisters in Christ. It was wonderful for me to renew friendships with the people of the Diocese that I met from past visits. It was especially fun to see teenagers, who were young children during my early visits to the Diocese, now exercising their own ministries in the Diocese.

It was rewarding for me to once again worship with the people of the Diocese when I was invited to preach at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Taipei. It was my third visit to Good Shepherd, so it was good to share the Eucharist with the many friends that I made during my previous two visits. I gave thanks for meeting new members from both congregations and be told of their new ministries to the community.

I also give thanks for my visit to St. Stephen's, Kee-lung City. My first visit to St. Stephen's was a very few months after their ministry began. To hear directly from members about their ministries serving children and seniors affirmed the faithfulness of the people to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the community around them in word and deed. It was wonderful to see the facility where they worship and carry on their ministries. On my second visit they were still in the process of major renovations and repairs.

Coming to the Diocese of Taiwan gave the House of Bishops and guests a better understanding of the Diocese of Taiwan and the Asian context for ministry. For many bishops and spouses, this was their first trip to Asia and their first experience with Chinese and Asian cultures. Others gained new insights about the mission and ministry of the Diocese and other Anglican Provinces in Asia. Though some

were overwhelmed and disoriented by travel fatigue and culture shock, we all came to deeper understanding and appreciation of the faithful witness of the people and clergy of the Diocese of Taiwan. We give thanks and praise for their faithful ministry for the sixty years of their history. I will continue to hold the Bishop, clergy and people of the Diocese of Taiwan in my prayers.



BISHOP DICK AND MRS. DEE CHANG WITH MRS. LILY LAI
AND TAIWAN FRIENDS

Letter of Appreciation from Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori



30 September 2014

The Rt. Rev. David J.H. Lai
Bishop of Taiwan
7, Lane 105, Hangchow South Road Sec. 1
Taipei 10060 TAIWAN

Dear David,

I write to thank you for your overwhelmingly gracious hospitality to the bishops and spouses as we met in Taiwan last week. From the coordinated arrivals, met by smiling and helpful diocesan leaders, to the guides who shepherded English and Spanish speakers on visits to congregations and points of interest, as well as through the Night Market, we felt welcomed by prodigal sons and daughters and received like lost sheep, who had been found again.

The meeting was a resounding success, and I thank you not only for your hospitality but for the teaching you offered on our first morning of business and through the tea ceremony. You and the members of the diocese helped all of us to understand your context more deeply and make connections with our own. I can only hope that Taiwanese Episcopalians had some opportunity to learn from those who gathered.

Thank you for encouraging President Ma Ying-jeou to join the opening reception, and for allowing us to learn something of the political and economic realities, as well as his focus on “exporting compassion.”

The trips offered on Thursday and on Saturday were of immense help in gaining a greater understanding and appreciation of Taiwan’s unique context and of the significant ministries in which the diocese is engaged. You have offered ideas and inspiration in abundance.

You sent us on our way well-met, well-fed, minds and hearts expanded (and perhaps waistlines as well), knowing that our relationships across this Church are stronger and filled with greater possibility. You sent us with physical reminders as well – the remarkable pictures taken on the steps of the Grand Hotel, and with beautiful reminders of the artistic gifts present in Taiwan.

Thank you, David, and our deep gratitude to Lily. Please let the members of the Diocese know how much this has meant to the whole community of bishops and spouses. We give thanks for your ministry, and pray that it may continue to be a rich and abiding blessing.

I remain

Your servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katharine Jefferts Schori".

Katharine Jefferts Schori

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori
PRESIDING BISHOP AND PRIMATE



Diocese of Taiwan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: "A Pilgrimage of Holiness"

February 12-22, 2015 (Chinese New Year)

by Rev. Philip J. L. Ho, St. Paul's Church



Travel, for me, is always a very sweet and beautiful experience. It gives me so many sweet memories that seem to transfer into the nest of my memory to be made into thick honey that can be offered to our dear Lord. I know that sweet memorial honey will please the Lord who loves me deeply, and at the end of a journey blessed by the Lord is always peace.

Days are fleeting, time goes on and a journey of holiness, a pilgrimage, leaves a deep impression.

Suddenly I find myself reaching 60 years of age. This is not a short time. Thanks be to our dear Lord for He always has mercy on my wife, Nancy and I. Now He has given us another grace that we could travel to visit the Holy Land at 60 years of age.

What a great mercy the Lord gave us! That we could visit the Holy Land with our son, who was ordained as a priest last August. We went as part of a group, led by Bishop Lai and Mrs. Lai, 20 people from the Diocese of Taiwan, and other sisters and brothers from different churches, a total of 34 people. The leader of this travel group was called Moses, an elder of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan, and who works for a travel agency named "Jerusalem".

Led by Moses and accompanied by the Holy Spirit,

we arrived at Tel Aviv Airport at 3:30 am. And so we really stepped on the ground of the Holy Land and began the first day of our 'Pilgrimage of Holiness'.

At the end of the whole trip, we were left with so many abundant godly experiences and inspirations. I hope that I can share with you what were the most inspiring to me.

Jaffa

When we arrived at Tel Aviv Airport, the time was about 3:30 am, and on that first day, we had our first breakfast of the special early morning at a restaurant in Jaffa at about 4:00 am. We went upstairs to the clean warm restaurant that displayed all the colorful and delicious food, fruits, vegetables, breads, milk, and coffee. That nice warm meal gave us a rest from the cold wind and rain which made us hold tightly onto our down-filled coats.

On the second floor, while we had the nice warm breakfast, I thought of the story about the Apostle Peter, written in Acts 10.

'One day as Cornelius's messengers were nearing the town, Peter went up on the flat roof to pray. It



CAESAREA

was about noon, and he was hungry. But while a meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the sky open, and something like a large sheet was let down by its four corners. In the sheet were all sorts of animals, reptiles, and birds. Then a voice said to him, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat them." "No, Lord," Peter declared. "I have never eaten anything that our Jewish laws have declared impure and unclean." But the voice spoke again: "Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean."

Jaffa was blessed to be holy, for Jaffa was the first town to hear the gospel spread out to the Gentiles by Peter. So Jaffa was the first city that brought warmth and kindness to our entire group on that deeply cold and rainy day.

Caesarea

We went to visit the famous ancient city, Caesarea, on a cold, windy and rainy morning, beside the coast (see top photo above).

The amphitheater, the Greek temple, the racecourse, the seaport, the outdoor bathing area etc., and the remains of those that had not been completely destroyed seemed to encourage my mind to imagine all that had made it famous in ancient times when the Apostle Paul was put in jail and judged by Felix and Festus.

Caesarea was built by King Herod who was not a

good king but he had a talent for constructing huge buildings. Caesarea became holy for there was a place where Paul proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus before Governor Felix and Festus and King Agrippa. Then we know, the gospel was brought to Rome from Caesarea by Paul, the gentle Apostle.

Caesarea was made holy via the witness of the resurrection of Jesus Christ proclaimed by Paul, accompanied by the Lord.

The eye of a needle

The guide said that there were only about 200 people in the little mountain village of Nazareth during the ancient time of Jesus.



THE 'EYE OF A NEEDLE', 'GATE OF A GATE'



Now, there are over 20,000 people and it is a crowded and noisy city because of the many travelers coming to visit from all over the world.

In the “Nazareth Village of Jesus”, the most impressive thing to me that I saw was “The eye of a needle” (see bottom photo on p14). It is a “gate of a gate”.

We know the story which happened in the dialogue between a rich young man and Jesus. The young man asked Jesus what to do to get eternal life. Jesus told him, “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” But the young man went away sad, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to his disciples, “I tell you the truth, it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. I’ll say it again - it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!”

Most of us can’t understand, “How can a camel go through the eye of a needle?” Our guide, Moses told us that in the large 3×1 meter wooden gate, there was a small gate about 1×0.6 meters, located in the middle of the large gate. He said “This small gate is

opened when someone needs to go through the gate but does not need to open the large gate. The small gate is more convenient for people to get through. If a camel was ordered by its master to go through the small gate because the master doesn’t want to open the large gate, then it could still succeed, but it would be very very difficult. This small gate was known as the “eye of the needle”.

The gate was holy because of the inspiration from our dear Lord. Jesus encouraged us, “With God everything is possible.”

Upon this rock

When we arrived to visit the famous Caesarea Philippi, the scene that came into my sight shocked me. There stood a huge rock looking like a mountain and at the left corner of the big rock was a small black hole (see photo above). Our guide, Moses told us that this black hole was called “hell” ever since the ancient time of Jesus.

Suddenly, I had an even greater respect for our dear Lord Jesus. In front of the big rock there spread many different colorful flowers, and tall green trees



lined the two sides of the slowly-flowing, clean and silent stream. What a beautiful place that was, and so suitable for a teacher like Jesus to give lessons to his disciples.

'Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" Only Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it'.

Of course, the small black hole had no chance to conquer the big rock which was over hundreds of times the size of the black hole (hell).

This is a holy land that was blessed by Jesus Christ, not only because Jesus came here to teach his disciples about the comparison between the rock and the black hole, but also for the reason that Jesus indicated that the church would be built on "the rock" which means "the Lord".

A holy river side

That rainy morning we walked slowly and went through the wet, soft and slippery path under the small forest of tamarisk trees. We came to the river side of the Jordan at Bethany. The local guide named Solomon, who was a descendant of Benjamin (the youngest son of Jacob), interpreted for us. This river side is a very holy land because of three holy events. Firstly from ancient history, it was here that Joshua led the Israelites through the dried Jordan river and arrived in the Promised Land, the land flowing with milk and honey. Secondly, this was the place that Elijah was carried by a whirlwind into heaven before the sight of Elisha. Thirdly, around this place Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist.

Solomon said "The Holy Land is not holy in itself, but has been consecrated by the Holy God, Holy Son and Holy Spirit who was revealed among people in ancient times and humbly lives in the people who really trust and obey Him, as in the past time, so now and forever."

News from our Companion Diocese of Osaka
Rev. Akira Peter Iwaki, Dean at the Kawaguchi Christ Church Cathedral,
Osaka Diocese, NSKK
A New Era for the Diocese of Osaka
Consecration of New Bishop of Osaka



A great joy was given to the church people when, on April 18, 2015 the new Bishop of the Osaka Diocese, NSKK, was consecrated at the Kawaguchi Christ Church Cathedral (see photos here). All the ten Bishops of the NSKK, as well as Bishop David J. H. Lai from the Taiwan Episcopal Church and the three bishops from the Anglican Church of Korea, were present to

lay hands on the Bishop-elect, Andrew Haruhisa Iso, who was to be the 8th Bishop of the Diocese. About 600 people, ordained and lay, attended the consecration service and Eucharist.

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Haruhisa Iso was elected to the episcopacy

at the Diocesan Synod last September. In the first voting, he won over two thirds of the votes for the clergy and lay representatives.

Prior to the consecration of the Bishop, the ordination of a deacon took place on March 21 at Higashi-Toyonaka St. Michael's Church.



This April, a candidate was given to us. He is William Ewan Hume, from Scotland. He started learning at Bishop William's Theological Seminary in Kyoto. He is, hopefully, to graduate in three years.

Diocese of Taiwan Visit to Diocese of Osaka

April 15-19, 2015



The Rt. Rev. Andrew Haruhisa Iso was consecrated as the 8th Bishop of Osaka on Saturday April 18, 2015. A group of 25 people from the Diocese of Taiwan, led by Bishop Lai and Mrs. Lily Lai attended the consecration (see above photo). The group spent 5 days in Japan, from April 15-19, and made the most of the rest of the time for sightseeing, particularly as the day of arrival was the official final

day of Japan's Cherry Blossom Season. Each person was able to enjoy the flowers and scenery.

Bishop Iso's consecration was held in Christ Church Kawaguchi Cathedral, Osaka and attended by 600 people. Following the service, there was a reception, at which Bishop Lai gave a short speech as follows:

Text of speech given by Bishop David J. H. Lai on the occasion of the consecration of Bishop Andrew Haruhisa Iso as 8th Bishop of Osaka, April 18, 2015

Firstly, on behalf of all the clergy and church members in the Diocese of Taiwan I bring greetings to you all in the Diocese of Osaka. In this Eastertide season, may Almighty God's peace and joy be with you.

The Dioceses of Osaka and Taiwan have been in close contact since 2001, and in 2004 we started our formal partnership as companion dioceses. We give thanks to God that we are already in our 11th year! I have had the honor of visiting the Diocese of Osaka at least 8 times during that time. Two years ago, a group from our 2 dioceses went together to visit the Diocese of Tohoku in N. E. Japan, to the area of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Through prayer

and action, we showed our love and care for those suffering in that area. We also give thanks that last year a group of 30 people from Osaka came to Taiwan to help us celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Taiwan Episcopal Church. Bishop Osamu Onishi led the singing of a song composed especially for the occasion by one of the Osaka church members, Ms. Ayano Tsuji, entitled 'Tomoni', meaning 'Together'. We thank God for his grace as we walk together in his light.

From my visits to Osaka, I have had many opportunities to learn deeply about the ministry of the diocese, the social welfare, service, education, training, and to see God's blessing on these different minis-



tries. You give glory to God through your actions, draw closer to him and serve him through your beautiful testimonies, enabling us and others to learn so much from your example. Through it all, we give thanks and praise to God.

Bishop Iso is the 3rd Bishop of Osaka since the start of our companion diocesan partnership. I know that both retired bishops, Bishop Uno and Bishop Onishi and also today's newly consecrated Bishop Iso, all 3 have a natural affinity to relate to people, a deep loyalty to serve God and to serve the poor and weak. They do so with joy, peace and smiles, isn't that true?

The first time I met your newly consecrated bishop, Rt. Rev. Andrew Haruhisa Iso, was 11 years ago in the chapel of Momoyama University. I was impressed with his liveliness, passion and cheerfulness, although I had no inkling that one day he would become bishop. I am

sure that over the years, it has become obvious that the fruits of the spirit are evident in his life. Thanks be to God, through the guidance and moving of the Holy Spirit, he has been chosen to be the new bishop of this diocese. Praise and thanks be to God for the grace and blessing He has poured out on this province and diocese, in choosing this loyal servant of the Lord as the new bishop.

Although our 2 dioceses are in different countries and cultures, I am sure that through us all, united in heart and mind, and through hard work in mission,

continued visits, mutual encouragement, cooperation, and sharing of our ministries and experiences, we will know God's blessing upon us.

May all praise, thanks, and honor be to Almighty God, Alleluia, alleluia, Amen.



PRESENTATION OF GIFTS FROM BISHOP LAI AND DIOCESE OF TAIWAN TO BISHOP ISO



ANTONY AND FRIENDS AT MING HUA THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, ANTONY IS THIRD LEFT

By the grace of God, I was given the opportunity to study for a master's degree in HKSKH Ming Hua Theological College, Hong Kong. As a seminarian who has just come to Hong Kong, I've been very excited and curious about the lifestyle in Ming Hua. Members of the College, teachers and students are so friendly and nice. They are willing to help me; they always give me good suggestions when I ask for advice. So now, I can live and study quite smoothly here.

Under the arrangements of Dr. Gareth Jones, Principal of the College, the students' daily life is comprised of three main parts: (1) knowledge acquisition, (2) fellowship development, and (3) spiritual formation.

With regard to knowledge, I really appreciate that in Ming Hua there are lots of lectures on various subjects which we can join in, besides taking the regular and professional courses. Speakers of those keynote speeches are remarkable scholars and specialists from different parts of the world; they bring us a wide variety of topics for discussion. Attending such lectures will help us, I believe, to extend our knowledge of the world; and, more importantly, to gain a better understanding of Christianity in different contexts.

In Ming Hua, academic discussions between students and teachers not only occur in class, but also take place before and after class, in all possible corners of the campus. We like to meet and talk about what we're learning, even after school. It seems that every time we share our problems with each other,

we discover something new, something we didn't notice before in a particular field. Thus, we get so excited together.

The Chaplains pay much attention to our fellowship involvement; they are also concerned about our individual needs in living and learning. With their concern, guidance, and help, we are now experiencing a wonderful campus life. Indeed, being a student of the College, I can truly feel that a strong bond between members of the College is a powerful element for mutual support.

Of course, the College also puts great emphasis on spiritual formation. Bible study is an important thing for all seminarians to do every morning. It is expected that after forming such a good habit of reading the Bible, we can think, speak, or live and work more naturally in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. And at noon time, we have a prayer service in our chapel. For the purpose of forming our spirituality, the College also arranges some short-term retreats for the students. A few months ago we went to the Anglican house of prayer on the island of Cheung Chau. Cheung Chau is a small island 10 km southwest of Hong Kong Island. Praise the Lord! I was once again able to concentrate on prayer and meditation. And, as I had expected, we all had wonderful moments experiencing God's presence. In this way, our spirituality is further formed day by day in the presence of God.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, TAMSUI

Chaplain: Rev Lennon Chang Yuan-Rung 張員榮牧師

September 18, 2014: Visit to St. John's University, Tamsui by House of Bishops Extract from Blog of Bishop Sean Rowe, The Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania

'Today, I traveled with a group of bishops to St. John's University in Tamsui. The university was founded by Samuel Isaac Joseph Schereschewsky who was sent to Shanghai by The Episcopal Church in 1859 and became the bishop there in 1877. He developed Parkinson's disease and finished typing the final 2000 pages of his Wenli bible with the one finger he could move.

St. John's University is the Sewanee of Taiwan. The university has over 7000 students with a number of students from mainland China, Hong Kong, and Malaysia. Most of the students are not Christians, but the school is guided by Christian values and practice. They are building a new chap-



BISHOP SEAN ROWE (CENTER) TOURING THE SITE OF THE NEW CHAPEL FACILITY WITH BISHOP IAN DOUGLAS (CONNECTICUT) AND WAYNE WRIGHT (DELAWARE)



HOUSE OF BISHOPS GROUP GATHER ON THE STEPS OF ADVENT CHURCH

el facility (parish hall) which I was able to tour with several other bishops. The cost of construction here is remarkably low. They are able to build a rather large chapel complete with conference rooms for \$900,000. A building like that in the US would cost \$3 million or more.

The school educates young people for engineering, art & design, business management, applied English, and many other fields. I toured the business and management school and their digital arts pro-

gram. I was impressed by the state of the art teaching methods and class rooms. Building costs are not the only surprising low cost—one year of tuition is a mere \$3500. You won't find a value quite like it in our part of the world.

I was pleased that our Church has such a fine university in another part of the globe, and it inspired me to think about how we can do better with our denominational affiliated schools in the US.'

Other news from St. John's University

Other news from St. John's University is that we have opened 3 classes this year for 5-year junior college students, and more are planned for this coming year, in response to student demands. Before being upgraded to university status in 2005, St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology was a highly successful junior college, but as junior colleges were upgraded to university status across the country, 5-year courses were gradually phased out. However there continues to be a gap in the market, with many young people still wanting to study at junior college level, and these classes are in response to this demand.

The new Advent Church Center, on the campus of St. John's University, has now been under construction for over a year. The exterior is finished, and the building is awaiting safety checks which will lead to a license from the local government giving us permission to use the building. We hope this and the remaining interior work can be accomplished in the next few months.

This academic year, St.



John's University has 150 international 4-year students, our aim is to reach 400! Of the 150 international students, 80 are from Malaysia, and the remaining 70 from Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China. We also have over 100 short-term students here for one or two semesters. There are also a small number of international teaching staff here too. We are delighted that some of these international students come along to the student fellowship.

During the last year, we have welcomed a number of couples who met as students through the student fellowship and have married in Advent Church, including some who served at various times as leaders of the student fellowship. The above photo shows Mr. and Mrs.



Huang, below is Mr. and Mrs. Chung, both grooms served as the chair of the student fellowship when they were students here. Both weddings have occurred in the last few months in Advent Church. Please pray for these couples as they start their married lives together.

ADVENT CHURCH, TAMSUI

Rev Lennon Chang Yuan-Rung 張員榮牧師 Rev. Wu Shing-Siang 吳興祥會吏

We are delighted to report that Rev. Wu Shing-Siang was ordained deacon on Saturday August 23, 2014 at St. John's Cathedral, and on Saturday October 25, he was married to Ms. Huang Yu-Ru in Advent Church (see photo below); the blessing was given by Bishop Lai.

One of our church members, Mr. Stoney Wu Jia-Guei has been accepted by the diocese for a year's training and testing of his call to the priesthood. After some months working at Advent Church, he is assigned to All Saints Church, Kangshan as from June 1. Stoney is also one of our organists, he will be much missed! He and his wife met as students at St. John's University, they were married in Advent Church 2 years ago, and his wife recently gave birth to their first child, a daughter Phoebe (see photo right). The baby was one of 3 baptized in Advent Church on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. One of the other babies is the first grandchild for rector Rev. Lennon Chang and his wife.

Rev. David Chee and his wife Amy leave for the USA in August, where David will be serving as interim rector of his former parish, St. Gabriel's Church, Monterey Park, California. Amy is cur-



rently organist and choir director of Advent Church, and David regularly preaches and leads services. We wish them well, they too will be much missed! Advent Church is currently searching for a new organist and choir director. We give thanks to God for his many blessings and the gift of music brought to our worship by the choir and the organists at Advent Church.



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH, TAIPEI

Rev. Philip Lin Li-Feng 林立峰牧師, English Chaplain: Rev. Herbert Barker

Rev. Lily L. L. Chang 張玲玲牧師 left Good Shepherd Church at the end of January 2015 and Rev. Philip L. F. Lin 林立峰牧師 started as the new rector on February 1.

Looking back to September last year, we were delighted to welcome a group of bishops and spouses from the House of Bishops Meeting on September 18. The group were welcomed by performances from the children of Good Shepherd Kindergarten and the senior dance group. We followed this up with sharing and discussion about our different ministries of Good Shepherd, followed by lunch together. On Sunday September 21, a large group of bishops and spouses joined us for a combined English and Chinese service, followed by lunch (see group photo below).

After many years of preparation and planning we are pleased that at last the installation of our long-awaited elevator has started! The elevator is being installed on the outside of the 5-story building, where previously there have only been stairs. With the development of our elders college and ministry



among the local seniors, not having an elevator is very restrictive for those wishing to join our activities in our second floor classroom. The ground-breaking ceremony was held in January, led by Bishop Lai and helped by Mr. Lee and other senior church members (see photo above). The plan is that we hope the installation can be completed by

the end of the year. Then we hope to start an interior renovation project, remodeling and decorating the main building, for example we hope to give the 4th floor over to the English congregation for their use. Please pray for the elevator installation and our vision to be fulfilled!

Mr. Lee, who took part so ably in the groundbreaking ceremony and service and who was our oldest church member, had been part of Good Shepherd Church for many years. Unfortunately over Chinese New Year he was taken ill and died in March, aged 107. His funeral service was held at Good Shepherd Church on Sunday April 19.



Good Shepherd English Congregation

By Rev. Herbert Barker

Koinonia----Rejoicing in Intimate participation----

Belonging, Believing, Befriending

When I was growing up in the southern state of Georgia, my family often listened to a radio program hosted by Father Patrick Peyton called "Father Peyton's Family Theatre" that had the theme, "The family that prays together stays together."

One of our aims at the Church of the Good Shepherd is to keep our English and Chinese families praying together and staying together. As in all families with diverse members, it is too easy for us to drift apart and begin to believe that we have nothing in common that should hold us together.

We are a diverse family at the Church of the Good Shepherd. We have many differences, languages, cultures, and theologies. Yet, we know that at heart we have much more in common with one another than we have differences.

We share in prayer and worship. We share the same hopes and dreams for our children to be healthy and happy. We share in one hope to be the instruments of Christ's peace and compassionate love in the world.

Yes, this year we continue to believe that "The family that prays together stays together." But we also have learned that the family that eats together stays together.

On Maundy (Holy) Thursday this year our congregations revived the custom of sharing in an Agape Feast. Good Shepherd had for years had a common meal of roasted lamb to celebrate the event of our



Lord's Last Supper with his disciples.

Yet, our families had strayed. For over a decade we did not share in an Agape Feast. No one remembers how or why our church family had discontinued sharing in this most important Holy Week feast.

On Maundy Thursday this

year we gathered as one church family to eat an Agape Feast together. It was with much excitement and joy that our two church families became one as we returned to eating roasted lamb, washing one another's feet (see photo), and recalling that we too come to sit at Jesus' table as his disciples.

Holy Week that ended with the resurrection of Jesus from the dead became for us a resurrection of new life as one church family who pray together, eat together, and serve and love our neighbors and the world together.

We at the Church of the Good Shepherd encourage all disciples to pray together and to eat together, and remember the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Agape feasting is not only to be celebrated during Holy Week, but every Sunday at the sharing of the Eucharist. Agape feasting also happens whenever our families pray and eat together.

Agape to all, from the two families of the Church of the Good Shepherd! We really are only one family. Amen.

CHRIST CHURCH, CHUNG-LI

Rev. Joseph Ho Ray-En 何睿恩牧師

At the beginning of our story, we were known as Chung-Li Community Care Center. But now we are Christ Church in Taoyuan County. In July 2014, Bishop Lai sent Rev. Joseph Ho here for the weekends and to the Church of the Leading Star, Taiping during the weekdays, but from December 1 onwards, he became full time here.

Our church is actually the first floor of an apartment building. When you come in, you will see that there is a glass wall differentiating two zones, at the front is our little office and meeting rooms, at the back is the place we hold our worship service every Sunday. There are three rooms, originally one each for Joseph, the Sunday school, and the kitchen.

But the rooms did not give us enough space, so after a meeting of church members, we decided to rent a place for Rev. Joseph Ho to live in. Praise the Lord, our landlord asked us if we would like to rent the fourth floor. We said: Yes, please! Then we began to move. Now, Joseph's office and the Sunday school room have moved to the fourth floor. So now on the first floor we have a newly available meeting room.

In the beginning of Chung-Li Community Care Center, there were a few mothers who were volun-

teers at Wen-Hua Elementary School. They belonged to the Rainbow Family Life Education Association and we have invited them to join us. In Christ Church now we have six volunteers teaching Life Education in Wen-Hua Elementary School.

In the training program of the Rainbow Family Life Education Association, many professionals in fields of early childhood education, child psychology, experiential education, and children's theater are invited to lead the training. We have learned a lot from this education association. The most exciting thing is that we have made new friends within the volunteer group & with the Rainbow mothers. During the preparation time for the Life Education classes, we share our lives and meals together. We have a very good relationship with each other and have become good friends. We learn with each other, laugh with each other, and cry with each other. We feel life is flowing, life is changing, God is working. One day, they came to Christ Church; finally we sang together. They sang from: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 'Love is patient, love is kind.....love never fails'.

We even made a short movie on YouTube for Mother's Day, this is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBvz7KEcAY8>



CHRIST CHURCH HOME FELLOWSHIP

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, HUA-LIEN

Rev. Joseph Wu Ming-Long 吳明龍牧師



We praise God that we had seven children attending the winter camp during the winter vacation time. It was held from February 2 to 5, 2015, every day from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm and was full of activities and fun (see photo above)!

The event was conceived by a small group of junior-high school students who were in charge of everything, and really worked to do the best they could. They had two full days of preparation and exercise on January 29 and January 30. Their efforts brought great joy and laughter to the children and helped the group to grow closer together.

On Sunday March 29, during the Palm Sunday worship, Brother Tsai was invited to witness and share with us about the pain he has suffered throughout this past year and a half through his bipolar disorder, but also about his experience of God's companionship, guidance and support.

Thanks be to God that he started to come into the church in July last year, because the door of the church is always open and anyone can come in. So

we began to have contact with him. At that time, he had had manic episodes for eight months, which had led to a family breakdown, a debt of millions and a precarious work situation.

On Saturdays and Sundays he always went back to Taipei to visit his ex-wife and daughter, so he rarely had the chance to participate in the Sunday worship at St. Luke's Church. But in fact for nearly half a year, almost every day of the week, he came to church to pray before his work and rest time. Praise God that in March this year he finally came through his depression, and he and his wife came back together again and applied to re-register their marriage. God is really wonderful! Even more amazing is that he is now accompanying another family with a family member suffering from bipolar disorder. Indeed, in the Lord we have suffered, but not in vain. Please pray for Brother Tsai and our relationship with him and his family.

TRINITY CHURCH, KEELUNG

Rev. Justin Lin Jun-Ming 林俊明牧師



Rev. Richard Lee Ray-Chiang 李瑞強牧師 left Trinity Church in February 2015 and Rev. Justin Lin Jun-Ming 林俊明牧師 started as the new rector on February 8.

Looking back to last September, on September 18, we were delighted to welcome a group of 15 bishops and spouses from the House of Bishops Meeting in Taipei to visit Trinity Church in the morning, followed by a visit to St. Stephen's Church in the afternoon. We had a time of sharing and discussion together, then lunch (group photo above).

On March 14, we were pleased to celebrate the wedding of our church members Mr. Lee and Ms. Kuo. Congratulations to them and we pray for God's blessing on their new life together.

Over Holy Week and Easter, we followed the traditional pattern of services, the blessing of the palm crosses and our morning service on Palm Sunday. From Monday to Wednesday we had evening prayer, then the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, Good Fri-

day noon service, Easter Vigil on Easter Eve, and the special Easter Day sunrise service.

Since Easter our Sunday morning service has changed to 10:30 am, preceded by a Sunday Bible Study Class at 9:15 am each Sunday.

After much thought and prayer, the outreach ministry started by Trinity Church under Rev. Richard Lee in Jiaosi, Yilan County has been handed over to be continued by a local evangelical church in the same town. We are pleased to have good relationships with this church and others in the area. They are delighted to continue helping the children and families who have been contacted through the ministry. Please pray for them and the continuing outreach program in Jiaosi.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, KEELUNG

Rev. Julia Lin Shu-Hua 林淑華牧師

It is amazing grace to serve our God here in the community of Chung-Shan District in Keelung. We were so pleased to share something about our ministry with the bishops and spouses from the House of Bishops when they came to visit last September 18.

After their visit to Trinity Church, the group came to St. Stephen's in time to meet the children arriving for their after-school classes. The children sang and performed for the visitors (see photo above) and shared with them, and we had a wonderful time of fellowship together.

Two people were baptized on Christmas Eve 2014.

One of the two was healed by God. She shared about her illness of lymphoma, and how the Christian medical doctor had prayed for her every day, and had inspired her so much. So she wished herself to become a daughter of God. She is full of joy and peace every moment now. On May 6,



11 (see bottom left photo).

18 of our church members went to her hometown, and shared the story of Jesus with her mother who is 90 years of old (see middle photo).

A foundation which supports us often, held an activity for all the youth of our church on April



This year, strengthening our evangelistic ability is our main goal. There is a class called 'Evangelism Explosion International' and we are so pleased to have 11 church members to attend this and to learn.



ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, TAIPEI

Rev. Elizabeth Wei 魏斐然牧師 Rev. Tsai Ching-Yi 蔡靜儀會吏

Rev. Samuel Lin Ying-Chiou 林應求牧正, Dean of St. John's Cathedral retired at the end of July 2014. Bishop Lai led a Thanksgiving Service for Dean Lin's ministry on Sunday July 27. Rev. Elizabeth Wei now serves as acting rector and Rev. Peter Chen as acting curate. Mrs. Grace Liou, wife of Rev. Michael Liou, has taken over responsibility as Supervisor of the St. John's Cathedral Kindergarten.

On Saturday August 23, 2014, an ordination service was held at St. John's Cathedral. Rev. Joseph Ho Ray-En 何睿恩牧師 was ordained priest, Rev. Tsai Ching-Yi 蔡靜儀會吏 and Rev. Wu Shing-Siang 吳興祥會吏 were both ordained as deacons. Rev. Tsai serves at St. John's Cathedral.

We were pleased to be able to help welcome bishops and spouses to the House of Bishops Meeting in Taipei from September 17-23, 2014. We staffed

the welcome desk for the visitor arrivals and on Saturday September 20, we led the sightseeing tour to Yilan, while our youth were pleased to help take the visitors around Shilin Night Market.

On Sunday September 21, we were delighted to welcome 80 bishops and spouses from the House of Bishops Meeting to participate in our morning worship. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori preached, translated by Rev. David Chee. The service was followed by lunch, hosted by St. John's Cathedral.

Our main service of Christmas was on Christmas Eve, at 7:30 pm, which was attended by 164 people. Christmas Day being a work day in 2014, our

Christmas Thanksgiving Service was held on the Sunday after Christmas, December 28, led by Mrs. Liou and the Sunday school children. We were delighted that 278 people attended the service, all celebrating through words and songs the birth of Jesus Christ. We invited the St. John's Kindergarten chorus and the Sunday school children to join in the service and offer hymns to God. After the worship was the Christmas Thanksgiving Buffet in the church hall. Some of the members of the National Taiwan University Chorus in our community also came to sing wonderful Christmas songs, and we praised God together.

Over Easter, we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and after worship we gave out

Easter eggs to each person. One of our members dedicated to each person a box of longan cake, and we held a lunch box party in the church hall. The Cathedral

Youth Fellowship held a 'checkpoints activity' with 4 checkpoints: a challenge to make a handmade towel rabbit, a sharp-eyed & fast-hand game, Bible Quiz, and Hopscotch game. The winners were also able to participate in a lottery in which everyone got a prize, and everyone was happy. In addition, the Sunday School arranged an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

On Mother's Day, Sunday May 10, at the Sunday worship we invited the St. John's Kindergarten chorus and the Sunday School children, to offer hymns to God (see photo above). The St. John's Drum Group also drummed to celebrate Mother's Day, in order to reward our hard-working moms.



ST. JAMES' CHURCH, TAICHUNG

Rev. Lily Chang Ling-Ling 張玲玲牧師

Rev. Charles Chen Chin-Ti, Rector Emeritus 陳金地榮譽主任牧師



Rev. Philip L. F. Lin 林立峰牧師 left St. James' Church at the end of January 2015 and Rev. Lily L. L. Chang 張玲玲牧師 started as the new rector on February 1.

Looking back to September 2014, we were delighted to welcome 80 bishops and spouses from the House of Bishops Meeting in Taipei to visit us on September 18. Many bishops wrote accounts of their visit, available on the internet. Extracts from the blog of Bishop Thomas E. Breidenthal, from the Diocese of Southern Ohio are published overleaf, used with permission.

On Mothering Sunday, March 15, we were pleased to welcome the congregation of our daughter church, the Church of the Leading Star in Taiping, back to their mother church for morning worship. Rev. Sam Cheng preached. This is a very meaningful tradition that has been going for many years.

Easter Sunday this year saw a group of enthusiastic church members together with Rev. Lily Chang and Rev. Charles Chen, celebrating a sunrise Eucharist in the park opposite St. James' Church (see photo).

In celebration of Mothers Day, the St. James' Pre-

school held its annual fair on Saturday May 2. We were pleased to welcome Bishop Lai to open the event, and a group from New Life Church in Taipei to perform for us. All the proceeds of the day were in aid of Andrew Charity Foodbank and the pre-school ministry of the R. C. Church in Hualien and Taitung. The total came to NT\$ 556,034.

We are delighted to welcome the visit of Rev. Joel del Rosario from the Episcopal Diocese of Central Philippines to visit St. James' Church for some months, he introduces himself in the following pages. He has been in charge of several of the churches built by St. James' Church in EDCP, so we feel like we already know him so well!

Bishop Lai visited us on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, for the confirmation of Kelvin Paul in the English Service. Kelvin and his family have been loyal members of the congregation for many years, and Kelvin has done his high school education in Taichung. He is now preparing to return to Bangalore for his university education. We wish him well!

September 18, 2014: Visit to St. James' Church, Taichung by House of Bishops
Extract from Blog of Bishop Thomas E. Breidenthal, The Diocese of Southern Ohio

'Today was an amazing day. Four different options for excursions had been offered, and Margaret and I had opted for one to St. James Church in Taichung. When we learned that we were due to depart at 6:50 am (as contrasted with around 8, 9 and 10 am for the other excursions, which were less far afield), we almost switched! I am so glad we didn't. Not only did the people of St. James pull out all the stops to welcome us, but their sense of mission and the scope of their ministry were both an inspiration and a challenge.

Around 45 bishops and spouses boarded buses at the hotel for the Taipei train station (cavernous and still fairly quiet in the early morning), and caught the high speed train to Taichung.

We hurtled at over 280 kilometers an hour through tunnel after tunnel and past lush rice fields and forested hillsides, with the high mountains that run the length of the island always towering to the east. Within 45 minutes we were on the outskirts of Taichung, a sprawling city of high rises, very modern except for the ramshackle housing and light industry around the edge. The seemingly brand-new and very high-tech train station is even further out, so when we had been deposited there two waiting buses bore us to the church situated in the heart of the city.

St. James was founded in the 1960s, by a combination of American Episcopalians on military duty in Taichung and local Taiwanese Anglicans. Land was acquired in 1968, and in 1971 the present church was built with a \$30,000 gift from Christ Church in

Greenville, South Carolina and a matching amount from members. Greenville is in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

Before I go any further I have to tell you that Andrew Waldo, the current bishop of Upper South Carolina, had no idea until this trip that a church in his diocese had played a major role in the history of St. James, and that Upper South Carolina was still revered by this Taiwanese congregation. Part of the magic of the day was our hosts' realization that Upper South Carolina had come to visit, and Andy's discovery that he had stumbled upon a wonderful connection that his own diocese had long since forgotten.



THE TAIWAN-UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA CONNECTION!
BISHOP ANDREW WALDO AND HIS WIFE, MARY FROM UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA, WITH FRIENDS FROM ST. JAMES: REV. CHARLES CHEN AND HIS WIFE, MARYJO, SON SAMUEL AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, LUANNE

In any case, the plant has grown a lot since 1971,

now comprising a beautifully appointed preschool building and playground, and a seven-story tower providing more space for the preschool and meeting rooms for the congregations.

It was the preschool we encountered first: a host of three-to-six year olds greeting us with "This Little Light of Mine" (in English!), and hand-drawn gifts for each of us. We toured the school, met teachers, explored the gardens, which are a central teaching tool ("nature," explained one staff member, "teaches children everything"), and spent time in the school's butterfly room, full of gorgeous and very friendly butterflies.

As we later learned, the congregation had deter-

mined from the very beginning that it should develop a preschool as a strategy to forge relationships with the largely non-Christian households that surrounded it and to introduce Christianity to them. We were told that the congregation tracks its preschoolers and their parents through grade school, high school and college, maintaining contact and trust. There is no attempt to proselytize, but the message of God's love and the invitation to be part of the church community is always there.

The church also runs a counseling center where individuals and families in crisis can get help and learn coping skills. Like the preschool, it provides long-term engagement with the surrounding community.

Along the same lines, the congregation is divided up into four cell groups, who pray, study and socialize with one another regularly, but who also serve as an entry-point for non-Christians who are curious about the faith. Here again, the object is to develop relationships of friendship and trust over time. My sense from talking to our hosts was that these friendships are genuine and valued for their own sake, whether or not they bring new souls to the church.

Perhaps for that reason, St. James is not especially large. It has an average Sunday attendance of 110, and continues to grow, slowly but steadily. But that slow and steady growth strikes me as remarkable in a context that, far from being post-Christian, was

never Christian at all. The growth, however slow, reflects real conversion to faith in Jesus, and such conversion yields solid commitment to the church as a body with a mission far beyond itself. On that basis, St. James is establishing itself as a trusted presence in Taichung, and in so doing is integrating the Gospel into the public consciousness. (This was powerfully demonstrated when, at lunch, the mayor of Taichung paid a call on us and praised St. James for teaching his city about the power of prayer.)

In any case, St. James is clearly small but mighty. It has expanded its physical plant dramatically, forged partnerships all over the city, created a vibrant preschool, and, as we learned today, subsidized the building of twelve churches in the Central Philippines. Someone asked a parish representative how a congregation so small by western standards could devote so much time and money to a remote part of the Philippines. The answer came without hesitation (I quote loosely): "When we were poor we received much from others; now we want to give."

I could go on and on about the time our hosts showed us: a tour of the National Fine Arts Museum across the street, and a blow-out lunch at a Japanese restaurant around the corner. But what really sticks with me is the expansive reach of this determined band of Episcopalians, so clearly driven by something bigger than themselves'.



VISIT TO ST. JAMES: GROUP PHOTO OF ALL BISHOPS, SPOUSES, STAFF AND STUDENTS!

Our link with the Episcopal Diocese of Central Philippines: Visit to St. James' Church by the Rev. Joel s. del Rosario

Warm greetings I do bring on behalf of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Philippines, The Rt. Rev Dixie C. Taclobao, my Bishop together with the Diocesan Staff and fellow Clergy. Allow me to express my words of gratitude and appreciation for the chance given me and the warm welcome that embraced me and my wife Irene upon entry to the Parish of St. James Episcopal Church, Diocese of Taiwan from The Rt. Rev. David Lai, Fr. Charles Chen (former Rector), Fr. Philip Lin (former Rector), The Rev. Lily Chang (new Rector) and The Vestry headed by Bro. Samuel Chen as Sr. Warden. Also Sis. Catherine Lee and Bro. Jerry Liang, both of whom were instrumental in keeping the line of communication alive.

As requested earlier, please allow me to introduce myself to the Diocesan Family and the Congregation of St. James Episcopal Church as well. I am Fr. Joel s. del Rosario, 50 years

old, married to Irene Sally Balian (see photo above), blessed with 4 children namely: Jireh, Nissi, Tsedeq, and Shammah, aged 24, 22, 17 and 16. I also have a granddaughter, Alyss Brielle 1 year and 2 months old, who was diagnosed with Biliary Atresia (Liver Disease) and has undergone a liver transplant on April 7 at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Kaohsiung and is now out of the ICU. She'll be confined there not less than 3 months should there be no complications. I do ask of your continued prayers for her full recovery.

My coming to St. James Parish on May 1, 2015 was made possible upon the written consent of my Bishop to the long request made by St. James Parish, with primary concern for the English Liturgical needs and participation with the existing programs/ministries of the local church. To date, I celebrate and preach at the English Service, preach once in a while at the Chinese Service, conduct Bible Study or devotion twice a week for the teachers and staff

of the kindergarten and Language Institute, assist in the Bible Study and choir rehearsals of the English congregation, and assist or share in the Saturday fellowships of the young people. I have also started scouting for contacts among the Filipino Migrant workers in Taichung.

This 2 - 3 months Priest Visit completes the Lay Visit from EDCP in the person of Sis. Lynn Baguiwet in Sept. 2013 and is all in aid of strengthening the partnership between the two entities which started way back in 1997. 12 Church Buildings were constructed thereon and I have had the privilege of serving 5 out of 12 local churches among others within the Deanery of Nueva Ecija Province for the past 6 years prior to this visit. It is but proper to acknowledge with gratitude the unwavering efforts made by the Rev. Dr. Charles Chen, former Rector of the said above partner



parish. Now it can be said, "A Dream come true" for Fr. Charles Chen.

It is with prayer and hope, that with God's continuing guidance paired with the mutual commitment from both sides, this existing partnership shall bear much fruit in the years to come as the challenge we are faced with at the present needs to be addressed and strengthened, enabling the local church to spell out concrete outward ministry in response to opportunities to reach-out to the unreached people of Taiwan and the Migrant Workers from S. E. Asia. I look with firm belief that this eventuality will soon be realized, considering the missionary zeal that is put ablaze in the vision of Bp. David Lai and the potential that St. James Parish has in its possession. Lord God, show us the Light as we celebrate the anniversary of the Coming down of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

THE CHURCH OF THE LEADING STAR, TAIPING

Rev. Sam Cheng Ching-San 鄭慶三牧師

On August 23, 2014, Rev. Joseph Ho was ordained priest. In December he was transferred from the Church of the Leading Star to Christ Church, Chung-Li. Retired priest Rev. Sam Cheng, who lives in Taichung, has assumed responsibility for Sunday services and weekend activities at the Church of the Leading Star.

The Church of the Leading Star was formally established in 1985 so we celebrate our 30th anniversary this year. On January 3, Bishop Lai and Mrs. Lily Lai came to celebrate the occasion with us (see photo to below).



On Mothering Sunday, March 15, we returned to our mother church of St. James' Church, Taichung as we do every year (see photo left). Rev. Sam Cheng preached at the service.

Every Wednesday evening, we have a devotional time with the teach-

ers of the Leading Star Preschool, and every Thursday morning we share Bible teaching with the children in the preschool.

Congratulations to Erica, member of the Leading Star congregation and daughter of Rev. Sam Cheng on the birth of her second child, thanks be to God!



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CHIA-YI

Rev. Simon Tsou Tsai-Shin 鄒才新牧師

In 2014, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the consecration of St. Peter's Church on 19 June. Bishop Lai was the celebrant at the special anniversary service. We also had a confirmation service for 6 new members on the same day.

After the service we had a luncheon in St. Peter's Preschool playground. During the party our youth band played music and sang the birthday song. Bishop Lai praised 5 students from National Chai-Yi Home Economics Vocational High School for helping our weekend children's camp, and presented them with certificates (see top photo).

From September 26-27, we held a retreat for our members at Arnold Janssen R. C. Activity Center in Fenqihu (see bottom photo). Our theme was 'Deeply-Rooted in



Christ' and we had a walking meditation round the forest pathway, it was a wonderful experience for us.

From December 8-19, we held major repairs to the wooden windows and doors of our church due to serious termite damage. Currently we are repairing the church ceiling, and hope it will

be done by the end of June. Please pray for this repair work and for the ministry of St. Peter's Church.



On May 9, 2015, just before Mother's Day, we went to the Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, where we danced and sang to the elderly and made simple picture frames together with them (see middle photo).



GRACE CHURCH, TAINAN

Rev. Keith Lee Jen-Cheng 李鎮丞牧師



We held a family worship at Rev. Luke Hung-hsing Chen's house in Hsin-hua prefecture (see above left photo). After the service and fellowship, Mrs. Chen led us to visit the beautiful garden where they take care of the plants everyday, and also took us for a walk along the path just near their house. May God bless Rev. Chen and his family.

On February 25, the women's fellowship held a visit to the Chi-mei Museum, newly-opened at the beginning of this year and not far from Grace Church by car. Inside are many artifacts related to Christianity and Church History, so it is well-worth visiting (see top photo above right).

On April 12, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, we had a joint service with St. Peter's Church at Masa Garden Restaurant in Yujing prefecture (see bottom photo right). For many days it had been raining continually, but on the morning



of the 12th, the rain stopped and the sun came out, the wind died down and the view was much clearer than usual and so beautiful. It was God's Easter present for us, thanks be to God!



Wetland in Kaohsiung (see middle photo). We were

Bishop Lai came back to Grace Church and celebrated the service on January 25, and Rev. June Chou also came back to celebrate the service on March 1. May God bless their hard work.

On April 25, the men's fellowship held an outing to Yuan-chong-gang Wetland in Kaohsiung (see middle photo). We were very happy that we could see the wetland ecology and learn about wetland plants and animals through the guide. After the visit to the wetland, we went to a restaurant at Keziliao fishing port to have seafood for lunch. We all had a wonderful day!



ST. ANDREW'S KINDERGARTEN, JIE-DING

Rev. Cheng Chen-Chang 鄭成章牧師



We are delighted that this semester, the numbers of children in our preschool have now exceeded 100, in fact we have 101 children registered, thanks be to God! Previously we have always had 90 or so students, so we are very pleased to reach the 100 mark. We also have 9 children coming from the local elementary school for after-school an-chin-ban classes. On March 25 we started our regular Bible Classes for this semester for the children every Wednesday morning and led by Rev. Cheng. Every other week on Wednesday afternoons we also have devotions for the teachers. The photo below is of preschool

and parents outing on May 1.

We finished the last semester with a celebration meal in Tainan on January 28, held along with the Rev. Keith Lee and the teachers from Grace Church Preschool to celebrate Chinese New Year (see photo to above). The semester then ended on January 31, but the new semester started straightaway on February 2. This year Chinese New Year was particularly late, so the new semester started immediately the last one finished, and then there was a short break for Chinese New Year.



ST. MARK'S CHURCH, PING-TUNG

Rev. Cheng Chen-Chang 鄭成章牧師

This year we got off to a reflective start with a retreat for all 6 of our church committee members held at a local R. C. Church with the aim of praying and reflecting on the coming year's plans and ministry.

On January 1, we started a program of reading through the whole Bible, using a program introduced by St. John's Cathedral. 8 people have registered to take part, and we also meet once a month to share about this program and what we have learned.

In January we had 2 training sessions for worship, for those leading worship and serving as readers, acolytes, welcomers and on the altar guild.

There are 6 of us who participate once a month in the Southern Deanery Life Renewal Class held at All Saints Church.

On February 15, we held our ancestor memorial liturgy, and on February 19, we held a Thanksgiving Service on the first day of Chinese New Year.

Friday February 27 was a national holiday in Taiwan, and the southern deanery held an outing to a farm in Chia-Yi. 8 people went from St. Mark's, where we had a service, lunch and fellowship.

There were 101 people altogether in attendance!

From March 6-7, 5 delegates from St. Mark's, including Rev. Cheng, attended the Diocese of Taiwan Annual Convention.

On March 8, Rev. David Chee came to St. Mark's to share about his newly published book 'Anglicanism'. Starting on March 13 and every other Friday we meet to share about what we are learning from this book and enjoy fellowship together.

Our Saturday Joy Camp for local children runs from March 14 to June 13 this semester, and we have 11 children in attendance.

On March 21, we invited Ingrid Chien to come and lead a Taizé Service at St. Mark's. She is a member of our cathedral congregation, and very active in the Taipei Taizé Services.

During Lent we had a service every Thursday evening. On Palm Sunday (see photo below) we held a procession around the area with our Palm branches before our service. We also had services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Eve and Easter Day which were very joyful!



ALL SAINTS CHURCH, KANG-SHAN

Rev. Leo Tzeng Wen-Bin 曾文斌牧師



MARCH 6, 2015: DIOCESE OF TAIWAN ANNUAL CONVENTION OPENING SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At All Saints, we are participating in the Southern Deanery's third year of the Life Renewal Class, and the theme for this year, 2015, is 'Follow Jesus, my Lord'. We meet once a month in All Saints, and usually about 20-30 church members and clergy are in attendance. There are 4 clergy leaders, Rev. Leo Tzeng, Rev. Keith Lee, Rev. Simon Tsou and Rev. Cheng Chen-Chang, responsible for leading the sessions.

On March 6-7, All Saints had the honor of hosting the opening service of the Diocese of Taiwan Annual Convention (see group photo above), followed by hosting a special lunch for all the delegates. The meetings were held afterwards in the Grand Hotel in Kaohsiung.

Every month on a Monday, we hold a picnic and outing to a local beauty spot. During May we went to a farm and small zoo located near Kaohsiung Airport. During coffee, we could enjoy watching all the planes taking off and landing!

Ash Wednesday this year fell on Chinese New Year's Eve, which is the biggest feast day of the year in Taiwan, so, in accordance with diocesan policy, we delayed observing Ash Wednesday until

Chinese New Year. On Easter Eve, we held a Sung Eucharist, and on Easter Day we had a service followed by the giving out of Easter eggs. 35 people attended the Easter Day service.

Every year we have a spiritual activity to increase our faith, and in the last few years we have read through the entire Bible. This year we continue to read passages from the Bible with the aid of a devotional book, in which we also write down our own reflections on the Bible passage and prayers and concerns.

In February and March, we sadly lost 2 dear elderly ladies from our church congregation, both in their 80s and 90s, and both long-time members of the congregation. Their funerals were held at All Saints Church.

Mothers Day 2015 was celebrated at All Saints at the morning service, followed by a congregational lunch in a restaurant in Kaohsiung for 30 people at 3 tables.

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH, KAOHSIUNG

Rev. Richard Lee Ray-Chiang 李瑞強牧師

Rev. Justin Lin
Jun-Ming 林俊明
牧師 left St. Timothy's Church in February 2015, and Rev. Richard Lee Ray-Chiang 李瑞強牧師 started as the new rector on February 8. For Richard one of the big challenges is that St. Timothy's is basically a Taiwanese-language church, so he asks for your prayers as he adapts to this new ministry.

On Sundays at St. Timothy's Church, there are 2 morning services, one at 9:00 am in Mandarin Chinese language, and one at 10:30am in Taiwanese language. There are also adult Sunday School classes at the same time, so that those attending the 9:00 am service in Chinese can stay on and attend the adult Sunday School at 10:30am in Chinese, and those attending the 10:30am service in Taiwanese can come earlier and attend the adult Sunday School in Taiwanese at 9:00 am. The adult Sunday School classes are in the form of Bible Studies and led by church members. On Sunday afternoons, after lunch together in the church, there is a new small cell group meeting attended by about 15 people. Currently it is separated into 2 groups, one for men led by Richard, and one for the women led by his wife, Belinda.



On Saturdays there are youth activities, in the afternoon for junior high school students, and in the evening for high school and university students. There is also a midweek Bible Study on Tuesday mornings, attended by 12 people, and a more informal gathering for seniors on Friday mornings, attended by 8-9. Friday evenings are now for home services, a gathering of church members for a service and fellowship together.

The outreach ministry in Jiashian has now been going for 6 years, started in response to the devastation caused by Typhoon Morakot in 2009. Every Wednesday a group from St Timothy's drive up there to help a group of 10 elementary school children and 10-15 junior-high school children from vulnerable and disadvantaged families with their homework, and to share Bible stories and teaching with them (see photos on this page). St. Timothy's Church Vestry is now considering its future and praying that other churches or outreach groups will feel burdened to take over this ministry and continue to help these vulnerable families.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, KAOHSIUNG.

Rev. Philip Ho Jeng-Long 何政隆牧師

On January 4, 2015 it was a happy Sunday that Zack Chen was baptized during the Holy Eucharist. He was one of the members of the St. Paul's Church Shining Eagle Summer Camp in 2014. During his time at the camp, he learned much about Jesus' love

and how to serve the elementary students. At the last fellowship meeting, every member shared about their amazing experiences during their interaction with each other. Zack was touched to cry before all the youth, groaning and wiping his tears and saying: "Now, I am sure that the Lord loves me so much because he died for me on the cross to save me from my sins so that I should not perish". This happened on July 5th 2014. Now he has been baptized for over 5 months and he has also passed the university entrance exam and been accepted in the Department of Physics at National Cheng Kung Uni-



versity. On that baptism day, the picture was very beautiful as all the church members joyfully took a photo with him and his parents (see left photo).

On February 6, St. Paul's Shining Eagle winter camp was held (see photo below) and it made all

the members joyful. There were 42 teenage students who were invited to serve the 58 elementary students. The St. Paul's Shining Eagle camp started in the summer in 2013. That was a 'twin win' designed to share the gospel with young students aged 12 -21. The main purpose of this Shining Eagle camp is to introduce the salvation of Jesus to them and lead them to think and experience the Lord's mercy via the various lessons and Bible studies. The great mercy for us is that most of the young students made their decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord. Hallelujah!





On February 26, we had an evangelistic outreach to give out New Testaments and Christian literature as gifts to all the people who walked by St. Paul's Church (see middle photo right). That day was the birthday of the "Heavenly Grandfather of Taiwan", one of the most important idols worshiped by Taiwanese people. About 20 sisters and brothers came to join in together to take care of people's souls.

We are so glad of the many opportunities to encounter our Lord via our outreach.

On April 5, Easter Day, after the Holy Eucharist, the congregation went to visit Sing-Tung Elementary School, located beside the famous Bridge Head

Sugar Cane Factory (see photo above). We sang songs to praise the Lord. And in order to encourage our students, we gave scholarship money to all of the students who had attained good achievement in their school reports. We hope they can be prepared to be good disciples of our dear Lord.



On April 26, a group led by the teacher of the Japanese course attended the worship and sang two Japanese songs to praise the Lord, and to encourage our congregation to respect all mothers and be good at learning to love each other in the church (see photo below).



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友愛雜誌發行人：賴榮信

會 址：台北市杭州南路一段 105 巷 7 號

局版北市誌字第貳壹壹捌號

中華郵政北台字第 1784 號登記為雜誌交

發行者：財團法人臺灣聖公會

電 話：886-2-2341-1265

傳 真：886-2-2396-2014

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Year 104, Issue
June 2015



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